

Message Text

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SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

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1. AT MEETING REFERRED TO IN OTTAWA REFTEL, RCMP INDICATED SUPPORT FOR A MEETING OF THE TYPE OUTLINED IN REFAIR. THEY ARE PREPARED TO SEND A DELEGATION CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THEIR INVESTIGATIVE AND SCIENTIFIC DIVISIONS AND MAY ALSO INCLUDE IN THE DELEGATION A REPRESENTATIVE FROM CANADIAN DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE WHICH ALSO BEARS RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE ANALYTICAL AND DATA ACCUMULATION AREAS. CANDEL WILL BE PREPARED SUBMIT PRESENTATION OUTLINING STATUS R & D IN CANADIAN NARCOTICS PROGRAM WITH EMPHASIS ON IDENTIFYING R & D NEEDS WITHIN THE CANADIAN CONTEXT. RCMP NOTES, HOWEVER, THAT TIME BEFORE CONFERENCE IS TOO SHORT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF FULL- FLEDGE SCIENTIFIC PAPERS DEALING WITH WORK UNDERWAY.

2. DURING MEETING SEVERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS EMERGED WHICH DEPT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER IN PREPARING FINAL PLANS FOR PROPOSED MEETING AS FOLLOWS:

A. IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT FROM THE
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MEETING WHEN IT IS HELD, IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE DESIRABLE TO SPELL OUT IN ADVANCE AS PRECISELY AS POSSIBLE WHAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING ARE, E. G., IS THE MEETING TO PLAN A COOPERATIVE MULTINATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM, TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING CHANNELS FOR SHARING FORENSIC SCIENCE INFORMATION, TO ESTABLISH INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS DATA BANKS, ETC.?

B. IF, AS MAY WELL BE THE CASE, THE PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE FIRST MEETING IS SIMPLY THAT OF GETTING THE LIMITED NUMBER OF SCIENTISTS ENGAGED IN WHAT IS OFTEN HIGHLY CLASSIFIED WORK TO KNOW EACH OTHER AND APPRECIATE SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL PROBLEMS, THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED. IT DOES, HOWEVER, EMPHASIZE THE PROBABILITY THAT FURTHER MEETINGS OF A MORE SPECIFIC NATURE MAY BE REQUIRED IN DUE COURSE. NOT ONLY SHOULD SPECIFIC PLANS BE LAID FOR THESE FUTURE MEETINGS BUT THE FIRST MEETING ITSELF SHOULD SEEK TO ESTABLISH A SOLID FOUNDATION UPON WHICH TO BUILD USEFUL FUTURE COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS.

C. FOR MANY OF THE ITEMS COVERED IN SUGGESTED AGENDA CLOSE COORDINATION IS IMPERATIVE BETWEEN INVESTIGATIVE AND SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL. WITH THE LIMITED FUNDS GENERALLY AVAILABLE, CERTAINLY ONE AIM OF BOTH NATIONAL AND MULTINATIONAL COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS SHOULD BE TO AVOID DEVELOPING EXPENSIVE INTRICATE EQUIPMENT WHICH MAY BE SCIENTIFICALLY SATISFYING BUT NOT READILY ADAPTABLE TO FIELD INVESTIGATIVE WORK.

D. THERE IS ALSO A POTENTIAL PROBLEM POSED BY THE COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS AND THE LEVEL OF PRESENTATIONS. ONE POSSIBILITY, IF NOT FOR THE FIRST MEETING THEN FOR SUBSEQUENT ONES, MIGHT BE TO SUGGEST THAT DELEGATIONS BE COMPOSED OF BOTH SCIENTIFIC AND INVESTIGATIVE PERSONNEL WITH PLENARY SESSIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END. IN BETWEEN, SCIENTIFIC AND INVESTIGATIVE GROUPS COULD MEET SEPARATELY OR IN SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED COMMITTEES AND ADDRESS THEMSELVES TO THEIR SPECIALTIES. THE PROBLEM OF INTER-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FACING SCIENTIFIC AND INVESTIGATIVE PERSONNEL

EFFECTIVELY MAY WELL BE A SUBJECT MERITING SEPARATE AND SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED CONSIDERATION. IF THIS PROCEDURE WERE ADOPTED SOME CARE MIGHT HAVE TO BE EXERCISED TO AVOID OVERLAP WITH OTHER INVESTIGATIVE MULTINATIONAL MEETINGS AND ASSURE APPROPRIATE CONCENTRATION ON FORENSIC SCIENCE SUBJECTS.

E. FINALLY, R & D AND THE APPLICATION OF ITS RESULTS MAY CALL FOR SEVERAL DIFFERENT LEVELS OF COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES. FOR EXAMPLE: (1) IN THE AREA OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DATA BANKS THE WIDEST POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL FORUM WOULD SEEM APPROPRIATE, PERHPAS AT UN LEVEL; (2) COUNTRIS WITH CLEARLY IDENTIFIED NEEDS, PROGRAMS AND A CAPACITY AND WILLINGNESS TO MAKE R & D COMMITMENTS CAN CLEARLY PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED COORDINATION AND COOPERATION OF OVERALL PROGRAMS; (3) BUT SPECIFIC COOPERATIVE PROJECTS MAY BE MORE EFFECTIVELY HANDLED IN A PURELY NATIONAL OR BILATERAL CONTEXT. OPTIMALLY, THE MEETING SHOULD APPROPRIATELY ENCOURAGE AND LAY A FOUNDATION FOR ALL THREE TYPES OF COOPERATION .
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